

The State Sentinel will contain a much larger amount of reading matter, on all subjects of general interest, than any other newspaper in Indiana.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY EDITION
Is published every Wednesday and Saturday, and during the session of the Legislature, three times a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at Four Dollars a year, payable always in advance.

THE WEEKLY EDITION
Is published every Thursday, at Two Dollars a year, always to be paid in advance.

*Persons remitting \$10 in advance, free of postage, shall have three copies of the Semi-Weekly one year. \$2 will pay for six months. \$1 will always be charged for the Tri-Weekly, and 50 cents for the Weekly, during the Legislative sessions.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted three times at one dollar a square of 8 lines, and be continued at the rate of 25 cents a square for each additional insertion. Quarterly advertisements, per square, \$5. All advertisements from abroad must be accompanied by the cash; or no attention will be paid to them. Postage must be paid.

INDIANAPOLIS, JULY 5, 1845.

Another Inducement.

As a further inducement to subscribe for the Sentinel, the franking privilege being taken from postmasters, we hereby agree to pay the postage on all letters containing five dollars and upwards. This will enable any three subscribers to save each 324 cents, on each paper, and if within 30 miles, he will receive the papers free of postage. Every subscriber, therefore, would be a gainer by getting two more to club with him, and remitting a five dollar bill.

Anniversary Celebration.

The anniversary of Independence was celebrated in this city as well as could be expected, and better than on some former occasions. In the morning, the Sabbath School procession, which was very large, (causing many to wonder where so many children came from in so small a town,) together with the Washingtonian Temperance Society, was formed at the Circle and marched through the principal streets to the State House Square, where the Declaration of Independence was read by David Reynolds, Esq., an address to the members of the Sabbath Schools by J. L. Ketcham, Esq., and by Gov. Wallace to the Washingtonians.

At 11 o'clock, the Mechanics procession proceeded to the same place, where the address was well read by John S. Merrick, and a very excellent oration pronounced by William Ricketts. The procession then returned to Drake's Hotel, where they partook of a public dinner.

The Young Men, in the afternoon, marched in procession to the 2d Presbyterian church, where an oration was pronounced by William Wallace, which we did not hear.

In the evening a large party assembled at the residence of Gov. Wallace, where a splendid supper had been prepared, and passed their time very agreeably.

Affray and Murder.

On the afternoon of yesterday, the 4th, at about 3 o'clock, an affray occurred in this city between a negro and some whites, in which the negro was finally killed outright. The name of the negro is said to be John Tucker, about 45 years old, and previous to this incident, he is said to have been of a quiet and inoffensive disposition. He was, we are told, formerly a slave in Kentucky, but many years ago honorably obtained freedom, and came to this vicinity. He had been employed on the farm of Postmaster Henderson for several years, up to the time of his death. He has left two children, a girl about 13, and a boy about 10 years old.

On the complaint of two respectable citizens, Nicholas, or as commonly called, Nick Wood, was arrested on the charge of having committed this fatal act. He was taken before Mayor Levy, but Wood being rather uproarious with liquor, and the excitement considerable, the Mayor very properly committed the accused until this morning (Saturday), for examination. Other persons are rumored to have been directly engaged in assaulting the negro, and the statements made concerning the commencement and continuation of the affray, as might be supposed, vary very much, according to the circumstances in which the relations were placed, and the confusion which prevailed. Of these, however, it would do no good to speak at present. It is the business of the law and its administrators to investigate the whole affair and do justice to all involved.

The negro defended himself with desperate determination; clubs were used and stones and bricks flew thick as hail. Wood's right eye was bunched early in the affray, but the person who was most seriously injured, and narrowly escaped with life, was Edward Davis, usually a very quiet person, who received a severe though not dangerous cut in the side of his head from a brick-bat, said to have been hurled by the negro, while making a retreating flight up Illinois street, where he was immediately killed.

The principal wounds received by the negro were apparently those on his head. There was a severe one, perhaps the severest, over the right frontal region of the skull, probably made by a club; another on the back of the head; a large gash on the top of the front head a little to the left; a hole on the right cheek below the right corner of the eye, and the jaw bone fractured; a hole cut through the left ear, and several smaller wounds.

It was a horrible spectacle; doubly horrible that it should have occurred on the 4th of July, a day which of all others should be consecrated to purposes far different from a display of angry and vindictive passion and brutality. All good men will reflect upon it with deep regret.

P. S. Since the above was written, it is stated that a writ has been issued for the arrest of William Banger, on a charge of participating in the affray; but that he has not yet been arrested.

A more careful examination by physicians to-day, (Saturday) proves, that Tucker's skull was fractured the whole length. The blow which caused it would have felled an ox.

Absence of the Governor.

For the information of the friends of the Governor and those desirous of addressing him by letter, we are requested to state that he will, for the next two weeks be at Mt. Pleasant, Martin county, where letters should be sent. This will account for non-replication to such as may be on the way, and received here during his absence. We are also enabled to state that the Governor will personally, so far as his other duties will admit attend to the selection of lands granted by the last Congress for the completion of the Wabash and Erie canal. We shall be much surprised if the Governor does not stop the mouths of those clamorous whigs who cry so lustily for his plan of relieving the State from the grievous debt brought upon it by whig legislation. We shall then see the course of those who are so peculiarly sensitive about the "honor and credit" of the State just before an election, and who profess to have horrors because Democrats have not been able to pay our debt in two years.

Send democrats to the Legislature to assist the Governor, not whigs to oppose such measures as he may advise.

The Indiana State Sentinel.

Published every Thursday.]

INDIANAPOLIS, JULY 10, 1845.

[Volume VIII—Number 3.]

Neutral Periodicals.

On the subject of political neutrality in periodicals, the Albany Atlas makes these sensible remarks, in an article concerning the Democratic Monthly Review: "The Democratic Review has acquired, during an existence of six or seven years, a high reputation with the reading public. It claims to be, and desires to be considered a political journal. It is received as such, and the public support it as such, with a liberality which would not be extended to a merely literary enterprise. The success of the work shows that in this country, as in England, literature must identify itself with politics. Not only the established Quarterly Reviews of England, but the monthly magazines are political, and the poets, travellers and essayists of England almost universally array themselves, or are forced by this system, under the hostile banners of the Government or the opposition. It is only the most inferior and ephemeral portion of the periodical literature of England that is without a political character. It was thought a heresy some years since, by the overseers of our own country, to unite politics with literature, and our Quarterly Reviews feared so much to be political, that they were not even national—they became poor copies of the feeblest literary talk of the British Reviewers."

These observations apply with much greater force to newspapers than to magazines. The notion that a newspaper, omitting to take part in matters which are of chief importance to the community, can be more interesting or more useful than those which make such discussions a prominent feature, is absurd; and could hardly be tolerated by a mind of more stamina than that of a love-sick novel-reading girl. Political papers may occasionally be coarse and abusive towards opponents, it is true; but this very collision may nevertheless serve to bring out the true fire of the flint. Such abuse and coarseness, is but the mere effervescence of antagonistic principles, and in most instances only tends to render pungently agreeable to many what otherwise might be nauseous and insipid. He who supposes that the great mass of sensible and intelligent people of this country will forego participation in the discussion of subjects of primary importance to their political and social well-being, for vain and frivolous amusement of any description, only displays great weakness, and will find himself in the end miserably mistaken. If it be true, that he is a benefactor of mankind who merely causes two blades of grass to grow where one only would be produced naturally, how much more honorable and beneficent is that vocation which leads men to seek out new principles and means of human improvement and happiness, or even to assist in applying to that end, the principles and means already established and recognized? It is such considerations as these, latent if not expressed, which influence the conductors of political periodicals, especially of a liberal order of sentiment, and of those who aid and support them; and it will be a lamentable era for the free institutions of this country when the reverse shall be true, and the people shall become content with a parlor and boudoir literature, instead of one built upon the sublime basis of human liberty and progress.

"The Mysteries of Iniquity."

This is the title of an article which originally appeared in the pages of the Whig Review, a new magazine recently commenced in New York City. It pretended to tell by what stupendous fraud upon the suffrage, concocted by gamblers, escaped convicts and ruffians, in close connection with the leaders of the democratic party, the last election was won. Being written with great indignation and grandiloquence of style, and the complete recklessness of truth, with a large infusion of anti-democratic malignity, it of course just suited the taste of a certain class of whig politicians, and was extensively copied by whig editors. Among others, our neighbor, the Journal, which seldom fails to seize upon such stuff with great avidity, copied a portion of the article, and we believe recommended attention to it editorially. Now that the readers of that paper may see how much the charges made in the article are worth, we copy the following extract from a notice of it by the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer, a leading whig paper:

"In this very long and circumstantial pretended history of the frauds of the last election, it is worthy of remark, that the writer does not attempt to give the slightest evidence in support of his allegations. He starts off upon a most absurd theory; and then as he proceeds, manufactures facts in support of it. Charges upon charges are brought forward in the most circumstantial manner; allegations after allegations are made with as much apparent confidence in their truth as if the facts had been elicited in a court of justice; and yet not one particle of evidence in support of a solitary charge or allegation, is placed before the reader. Nobody can rise from the perusal of this paper without a conviction that it is from beginning to end, the work of an unsettled and wandering imagination—of a brain laboring under a most unhappy hallucination, which calls for the most intense interest of friends to prevent more disastrous consequences. That the mind of the writer is not as tranquil as it should be, is apparent from the gross contradictions contained in the article itself; and that the responsible Editor of the magazine, has no brains to become added, is manifest from the admission of such a raving and ridiculous article into its pages."

The Courier & Enquirer further said:

"The editor announces in conspicuous type, that 'the copyright of the article entitled 'MYSTERIES OF INIQUITY,' has been secured by the author, according to law. A full edition, with emendations, [of its facts, we hope, is already in press, and will be issued in two or three days.] A mad man in the Bloomingdale Asylum, some weeks since, imagined himself the liver of a goose, in process of being enlarged, to make a *Pette feo gras*. Most assuredly, the conceit, was original; and we think there would have been quite as much sanity evinced in his securing the copyright to it, as there is in taking out a copyright for the article in question. No copyright was necessary in either case, for there is as little prospect of any person ever copying the fifty pages of rhapsody from the 'Whig Journal' as there is of a sane man borrowing the idea of his being a goose's liver in process of enlargement by heat. We cheerfully admit, however, the right of the author of 'The Mysteries of Iniquity' to a copyright, on both sides of one of the usual grounds for protection; it is perfectly original in its character, and from the commencement to the end, a fiction."

The Courier & Enquirer could not have known that the 'Mysteries' had been copied by the Indiana State Journal, or it never would have talked as it does, perhaps. And, perhaps, again, it does not understand the taste of the whig party here, or the material upon which its zeal and faith is fed. When it comes to learn that, perhaps it may be a little less severe in condemning the promulgation of humbug, folly and falsehood of the grossest and most palpable kind through the pages of the leading periodical of the party.

After the scathing rebuke of the Courier & Enquirer was published, Colton, the editor of the Review, published a card in which he admitted the folly and falsehood of the article, and tried to evade personal responsibility by charging the rascality on the writer of the article alone.

SHELBY COUNTY.—Mr. Hendricks having declined running for the Senate, Mr. Handy now has a clear track. We hope to see Old Shelby roll up one of her old-fashioned Democratic majorities. Let all minor differences be forgotten for the general good.

Capital Punishment.

ANOTHER MURDERER ACQUITTED.—Henry Daniel, formerly a member of Congress, who shot and killed his brother-in-law, at Mt. Sterling, Ky., last winter, has been tried and acquitted. Daniel committed this murder in broad day, in open court, and in the presence of a multitude of witnesses; yet the jury says—not guilty. The truth is that a murderer can safely undergo the ordeal of a trial, while almost any other criminal is sure to be convicted. Such is the natural result growing out of the general aversion to the penalty of death. It is therefore good policy for criminals of every grade to add murder to their other crimes, and thus secure immunity from any punishment whatever, except the force of a trial. The only way in which these evils can be remedied, is to make the penalty what it ought to be—imprisonment for life out of the law.

ANOTHER CASE.—A man named Pappenberg was recently tried at Philadelphia, on a charge of murdering a Mr. Treager. He was acquitted, though the circumstantial evidence, (such as possessing the watch and some clothing of the deceased, blood on his own clothes, which he had tried to wash out, a bloody hatchet on his premises, &c.), was very strong against the accused. Still it was possible that he was not guilty, and so the jury after deliberating three days, refused to convict. A Philadelphia paper says—"It is presumable that in at least half the cases of actual murder, an acquittal takes place; and that this would not continue to be the case if capital punishment were abolished." And the N. Y. Morning News observes, "that in capital cases, the mind of the juror often becomes warped and affected in a manner to half unfit him for the proper discharge of that high function, and absurd verdicts are often rendered in perfect good faith and honesty of purpose. A perpetual silent reference to the bloody penalty causes him to look upon the different parts of the evidence with very different eyes. The smallest possibility of a doubt is vastly magnified to his mental vision, while the clearest points against the prisoner retreat insensibly into the background of the shade. Change the nature of the punishment to one less abhorrent to the deepest instincts of human nature, and all this will be changed."

The News further says—
"The late Circuit Judge of this Circuit, Judge Kent, a man who shed upon his office a higher lustre than it could yield, became a decided convert to the doctrine of the abolition of the death-penalty, from his experience and observation on the bench. One-third of the panel of jurors, he said, refused to serve in capital cases; and of those who were sworn into the jury box half go there with minds more than half unfitted for its duty. On the ground of expediency alone—for the true interests of the public, and for the prevention of crime by increasing the certainty of punishment, he declared himself prepared to sign a petition to the Legislature in favor of the proposed change. We might as well name many of our higher judges who entertain similar views."

The subject of the abrogation of death punishment is exciting much attention in England as well as in this country. It will not be many years before this relic of barbarism will, like that of imprisonment for debt, be cast into the receptacle of lost things. Public meetings have been held in some parts of the Kingdom, and petitions have been addressed to the Queen, in favor of a reform in the matter. The London Economist, an able advocate of liberal principles, says—

"We rejoice to find that the late horrid executions of criminals are exciting a feeling of disgust throughout the country. It is felt that the hangman has done his worst (or worst), and man is not reformed. The more the hangman does, the more he gets to do, until every now and then a feeling of satiety comes over the public, from whom jurymen are chosen, and they take refuge in verdicts of insanity. But the fact is, all criminals are insane, which is no reason why, when they are proved to be mischievous, they should be suffered to go at large; but it is a very good reason why they should be treated kindly but not venially—should be kept out of harm's way, in fact, both on their own account and on that of others. There is no greater remnant of barbarism among us than our criminal code from beginning to end. It is, in fact, pure unadulterated barbarism. We stand out among so called enlightened nations, in most unenviable relief, as the hanging nation; and it is a fact, that we have more criminals for our population than any people among whom records of crime are kept. We do not think it so in vain to hang, but a right and necessary though painful duty, this fact ought to weigh heavily."

It is evident they don't gain, their ends by it; they don't deter from crime in proportion to the number of their executions, but, on the contrary, are dared with at least one, often two or three fresh murders, to say nothing of thefts and minor offences, for every time that they erect the gallows. Will experience, which guides us in every thing else, carry no lessons to us in precise words? It is evident that the more we hang, the more we have their effect on every member of society. We do not believe it. War, which some people are just now talking of, is bad enough; but it is not all bad, for noble virtues and heroic conduct (which we could wish to see otherwise displayed) are from time to time manifested in it. But about hanging there is not one even insignificant feature which for a moment withholds the view from its repulsive, coarse, vindictive character. Are we wrong, then, in hoping and anticipating, as we certainly much desire, that we are near having seen the end of it?

GUILTY OF BEING CONCERNED IN THE SLAVE TRADE.

The case of Jason L. Pendleton, indicted for a misdemeanor, in being connected with the slave trade on the coast of Africa, was brought to a close in the United States District Court, Baltimore, by a verdict of guilty. The punishment is fine and imprisonment, the lowest grade even very severe.

The trial of Peter Flower, Captain of the schooner Spiffire for being engaged in the slave trade, before the U. S. District court of Mass., was brought to a close on Saturday, and the jury rendered a verdict of guilty, with a recommendation of mercy.

The circuit court of Warren county, Miss., convicted Thomas Dowling, an overseer, of manslaughter in the first degree, for killing a slave belonging to his employer, R. Ballard.

EMANCIPATION IN KENTUCKY.—The Louisville Journal says:

"The question of gradual emancipation has been a good deal discussed privately among us of late, and it may come under public discussion soon, but whenever it does the principles and views of the abolitionists will have few advocates here. The question will be viewed as a politico-economical question. It will not be a question of emancipation so much as a question of policy of transferring the slaves into other States. The most that can be expected is the passage of a law declaring all persons born after a certain day free."

In the House of Correction at Boston, not a blow has been struck in twelve years, not an instance of resistance to authority known, and during that time over seven thousand five hundred prisoners have passed through the prison. This is good government.

THE ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE incorporated the Williams' Brass Band; with the privilege of issuing notes, as a matter of course.

Tornado.

We learn that a destructive Tornado passed over a portion of Hendricks county, near Brownsburgh on Tuesday last, filling the roads with trees and destroying every thing in its course. We have heard of one death, and several injuries; but have not been able to get the particulars in detail. Twigs and leaves in abundance are said to have fallen in this neighborhood not far from town. We hope some of our friends will send us full particulars.

Last Saturday morning, a tornado visited the neighborhood near Vevay, Ia., unroofed some houses, carried away chimneys, prostrated fences, and occasioned other damage. Two or three persons were injured, but no lives were lost.

North Carolina.

The election for members of Congress in this State takes place on Thursday, the 7th day of August. The following are the candidates in nomination:

Districts.	Dem.	Whig.
1st		T. L. Clingman.
2d	Charles Fisher	D. M. Barringer.
3d	David S. Reid	A. B. McMillan.
4th		Jonathan Worth.
5th	James C. Dobbin	Alfred Dockery.
6th	James J. McKay	T. D. Meares.
7th	J. R. J. Daniel	
8th	Henry S. Clark	R. S. Donnell.
9th	Asa Biggs	David Outlaw.

Decried Liberated.

A letter was received yesterday by our friend, Dr. Dunlap, from Rhode Island, dated Providence, June 27th, stating that Gov. Dorr had been the day before unconditionally liberated from prison, and that the republicans were celebrating the event by the firing of cannon and other demonstrations of joy and gladness. Thus do we gain another triumph over tyranny and tyrants.

FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.—Dr. Duncan, in his speech on the Army Appropriation Bill, exposes the profligate policy of the government in relation to war expenses. The Major General receives \$7,144 88 per annum in salary or perquisites; equal to the income of twenty-four farms, capital and labor included. A Brigadier General receives \$4,600, equal to the proceeds of fifteen farms, each worth \$3000, and labor included. An Adjutant General receives \$3,884, a sum equal to the proceeds of thirteen farms, each worth \$5,000, and labor included. An Inspector General receives \$4,133, equal to the proceeds of fourteen farms, each worth \$5,000, and labor included. A Quartermaster General receives \$3,767, equal to the proceeds of twelve farms, each worth \$5,000, and labor included. A Commissary General receives \$3,568, equal to the proceeds of twelve farms, each worth \$5,000, and labor included. A Surgeon General receives \$3,628, equal to the proceeds of twelve farms, each worth \$5,000, and labor included. A Colonel receives \$3,916, equal to the proceeds of thirteen farms; a Major, \$2,307, equal to the proceeds of eight farms; a Captain, \$2,183, equal to the proceeds of seven farms, each in all cases \$5,000, and labor included.

MADAM GEORGE SAND.—The N. Y. Post says that one of the papers in a late number of the new Whig Magazine, which will be read with most interest, is one in vindication of the much abused writings of George Sand. In this the writer, like the critic in a recent London Quarterly, undertakes to show that this woman is not the monster which she is represented to be by persons who have either never read her writings, or wittingly distorted their tendency. Her sentiments and aspirations, he thinks, are not those of a monster, but of a true, noble hearted woman. It would be well for all who have formed their opinions of the accomplished Frenchwoman, from the lying perorations of England, either to get her works or read this defence. At the close of his essay, the writer administers a rebuke to the ignorant prejudice and fanciful bigotry of the Paris correspondent of the National Intelligencer, who does more than any other single man to give the American false notions of European politics and literature. We are pleased to see the rebuke come from one who is of his own way of thinking in politics.

The remains of General Jackson now rest in the spot so beautifully alluded to by him in his reply to Commodore Elliott, in the following language:

"I have prepared an humble depository for my mortal body beside that wherein lies my beloved wife, where, without any pomp or parade, I have requested, when my God calls me to sleep with my fathers, to be laid; for both of us there to remain until the last trumpet sounds, to call the dead to judgment, when, I hope, shall rise together, clothed with the heavenly body promised to all who believe in our glorious Redeemer, who died for us that we might live, and by whose atonement I hope for a blessed immortality."

Gen. Santa Anna, lady and family, exiles from Mexico, arrived at Havana on the 7th inst., in the Br. mail steamer Medway from Vera Cruz. They were going to Venezuela. On the same day Gen. Bustamante landed at Havana on his way to Mexico, in the Br. mail steamer Dec from England.

The Havana papers say that in their Mexican files they find nothing touching the difficulties about Texas. All indications of war between Mexico and the United States had cooled down.

It is recorded in one of the Havana papers that the French Secretary of Legation had been insulted by some Mexican soldiers. The Secretary had required of the government of Mexico prompt redress, or he would demand his passports.

PLANK ROAD.—A Montreal correspondent of the Rochester Democrat, writes June 13th as follows:

"I took a ride yesterday to Chialby, a flourishing village, some 15 miles from here, over a plank road, which was built four years ago, and it proved to be a charming one, so far as ease for the draught of the horse was concerned. The planking of the road cost \$2,800 a mile. So far, it has paid 7 per cent, and an annual surplus of \$2,500 a year reserved as a sinking fund, to replank when necessary."

SATANSTOE, OR THE LITTLEFAIR MANUSCRIPTS, is the title of a new book by James Fenimore Cooper. It is a tale of the early events of this country while a colony. Mr. Cooper says in his preface that he has been induced to lay this book before the public as it relates directly to the great New York question of the day, Anti-Rentism."

The Pittsburg Chronicle states that about five hundred buildings are in the course of erection in the "burnt district." The number already completed is supposed to be something over one hundred. By next autumn the greater portion of the "burnt district" will be rebuilt, and in most cases with good and substantial brick-buildings.

The Journal of Commerce says the weather in New York city, on the 6th, was warmer than it had been on any previous day for seven years.

Account of Gen. Jackson's Last Moments, from his Family Physician.

We are favored with the original of the following letter, which will be found interesting to all our readers.—Union.

NASHVILLE, TENN., 9th June, 1845.

DEAR SIR: It is probable, before this letter shall have reached you, you will have heard of the death of our venerable friend, General Andrew Jackson, who departed this life on yesterday afternoon, precisely at six o'clock. Knowing that you have been left his papers, and being well assured that you always have taken a lively interest in him while living, and believing you would be pleased to know something of his last moments in life, I have thought proper to make you the communicant of what I saw much of him during his last illness, and was present at his death. I have been frequently in his family, as physician, for several years past; and on my return home from the east, in April, I visited him in company with his particular friend, General Robert Armstrong. We found him very feeble, laboring under a dropsical affection—particularly that form of dropsy known as *anasarca*. He informed me he had suffered much bodily pain, in consequence of the great effusion or swollen condition of his extremities. The cough which had harassed him so much for years, had nearly or quite left him; but his difficulty of breathing appeared to be increased. I prescribed for him, and visited him occasionally. The remedies appeared at first to afford him considerable relief, as I suspected his dropsical condition; but his system had been so undermined by previous disease, that medicine appeared to have lost its impression or effect. The dropsical effusion returned, and I was requested to visit him on the 1st of this instant, and found him suffering excessively from the distension occasioned by the accumulation of water. I immediately tapped him, and drew off a very considerable quantity of water, which afforded him immediate relief. He took an anodyne at night, and informed me, the next morning, that he had passed a better night than he had done for the last six months.

Drs. Robertson and Waters were in consultation on the next morning. We agreed on a prescription, which was administered, and which procured him some temporary relief. This was all we could expect to obtain, considering his situation. I was sent for again on Saturday, the 7th inst. The messenger informed me that the General was much worse. I hastened to the Hermitage, and found him very much exhausted. He had great difficulty in respiration, in consequence of an accumulation of water in his chest. He requested I should remain with him, as he was well aware that his dissolution was near at hand. I took an anodyne and expectorant, and appeared to pass the first part of the night tolerably comfortable. He had not been able to lie down for the last six months. He had to be propped up in his bed at night, and in his arm-chair during the day. On Sunday morning, the 8th instant, (the day on which he died,) on entering his room, I found him sitting in his arm-chair, with his two faithful servants, George and Dick, by his side, who had just removed him from his bed. I immediately perceived that the hour of death was upon him. I informed his son that he could not survive but a few hours; and he immediately despatched a servant for Major William B. Lewis, the General's devoted friend. Mr. Jackson informed me that it was the General's request that, in case he grew worse, or was thought to be near his death, Major Lewis should be sent for, as he wished him to be near him in his last moments. He was instantly removed to his bed; but, before he could be placed there, he had swooned away. His family and servants, believing him to be dead, were very much alarmed, and manifested the most intense grief; however, in a few seconds reaction took place, and he became conscious; and raised his eyes and said: "My dear children, do not grieve for me; it is I who am going to leave you; I am well aware of my situation; I have suffered much bodily pain; but my sufferings are but as nothing, compared with that which our blessed Savior endured upon that accursed cross, that he might all be saved who put their trust in him." He first addressed Mrs. Jackson, (his daughter-in-law,) and took leave of her, reminding her of her tender kindness manifested towards him at all times, and especially during his protracted illness. He next took leave of Mrs. Adams, (a widowed sister of Mrs. Jackson, who has been a member of the General's family for several years,) in the most kind and affectionate manner, reminding her also of her tender devotion towards him during his illness. He next took leave of his adopted son in the most affectionate and devoted manner. He next took leave of his grand children, and the children of Mrs. Adams and his own, and blessed them in a touching and impressive manner, that I have no language that can do this scene justice. He discovered that there were two of his boys absent—one of his grandsons and one of Mrs. Adams's. He inquired for them. He was informed that they were at the chapel, attending Sunday school. He desired that they should be sent for. As soon as they came, he kissed and blessed them all, as he had done to those with him. By this time most of his servants had collected in his room, or at the windows. When he had taken leave of them all, he delivered one of the most impressive lectures on the subject of religion that I have ever heard. He spoke for near half an hour, and apparently with the power of inspiration; for he spoke with calmness, with strength, and indeed, with animation. I regret exceedingly, my dear sir, that there was not one present who could have noted down his precise words. They might have been read with profit, and would have been fondly cherished as a precious gem by all the good and great of the land.

In conclusion, he said: "My dear children, and friends and servants, I hope and trust to meet you all in heaven, both white and black." The last sentence he repeated—"both white and black," looking at me with the tenderest solicitude. When he had ceased to speak, he fixed his eyes on his granddaughters, and then on his grandsons, and then on his own beloved wife for several seconds. What was passing through his mind at that moment, I will not pretend to say; but it did appear to me that he was invoking the blessings of Heaven to rest upon her. The lecture to his family was awfully sublime. His implicit belief in the Christian religion, and in the plan of salvation, as revealed in the Bible, his anxiety that he should believe in religion, as taught by the holy Scriptures; and that, in so doing, they would insure their eternal salvation, and join him in heaven—such sentiments, from such a man, at such a time, are enough to put to flight all scepticism on the subject of religion.

Major Lewis arrived about two o'clock. The General appeared to know him when he spoke to him. As I before stated, the General had to be propped up in his bed; and Major Lewis supported his head until he breathed his last; which was precisely at six o'clock, p. m. Thus died the greatest and best man of the age, or, perhaps, of any age.

I am, with great regard, your friend and obedient servant,
JNO. N. ESSELMAN.

The Big Chinese Letter.

This singular document, which perhaps surpasses in its dimensions, and in particulars of composition, any State paper which was ever addressed to our government, arrived at the Department of State yesterday. We had an opportunity of seeing the extraordinary missive, and have been favored with the following copy of a translation, which was made from the Chinese by Mr. Parker, and transmitted with the original document. The whole accompanying letter is as unique as the document itself. It will be deposited with the archives of our government, to gratify the curiosity of virtuosos. Accompanying this letter, is one addressed to Mr. Cushing, our late commissioner to China—of which we furnish also a translation.

The reader will probably recollect that we recently published an interesting communication from the learned Chinese scholar in this city, descriptive of the characters of the letters written by the Chinese; and proving that the higher the respect intended to be shown, the larger was the dimension of the letter. If this rule be a correct one, no higher respect could scarcely be shown to the President of the United States.

States, or perhaps to any potentate upon the face of the earth, than in this extraordinary composition.

The contents of the letter to the President are very agreeable. It breathes the pure spirit of peace, and a sincere desire to extend the benefits of intercourse between the two great nations—"the Central Flowery Kingdom," as the Chinese call their own empire, and "the Nation of the Flowery Flag," as they call us. (See the sentiments of the Scholars and People of Canton, in Mr. Cushing's Documentary Correspondence submitted to the last Congress, page 66.)

It is amusing to see with what an air of refined courtesy the Emperor excuses himself for not seeing Mr. Cushing at Peking. Our commissioner was most anxious to take the trouble of the visit; but the Emperor plays the diplomatist, and disguises his policy of keeping strangers from his capital, under the appearance of the greatest consideration for the comfort of the ambassador.

The letter to the President consists of a roll of 7 feet 1 inch long, by 2 feet 11 inches wide. The writing is on a field of plain yellow silk, with a margin of silk of the same color, embroidered in gold thread. The letter is in two languages, (Chinese and Manchu Tartar,) in characters of large size, and in perpendicular columns, which are separated in the middle by the imperial seal—which is composed of Chinese characters, enclosed in a *caracole* about 3 inches square; this roll is enclosed in a wrapper of yellow silk, (yellow being the imperial color) which again is enclosed in a round box covered with yellow silk, and closed by two fastenings of jade stone; and finally is enclosed in an oblong square box of rose-wood, and padded and lined with yellow silk.—Union.

[COPY.]

THE GREAT EMPEROR presents his regards to the PRESIDENT, and trusts he is well.

THE EMPEROR having looked up and received the manifest will of HEAVEN, hold the reins of government over, and soothe and tranquilize the Central Flowery Kingdom, regarding all within and beyond the border seas as one and the same family. Early in the spring, the Emperor, in a wrapper of yellow silk, *Celestial Kingdom*, having received your letter, arrived from afar at my province of Yue. He having passed over the vast ocean with unspeakable toil and fatigue, I, the EMPEROR, not bearing to cause him further inconvenience of travelling by land and water, to dispense with his coming to Peking to be presented at court, specially appointed *Ke Ying*, of the IMPERIAL ARMY, and a *Chang*, and *Chang* extraordinary, to repair thither, and to treat him with courteous attention.

Moreover, they having negotiated and settled all things proper, the said minister took the letter, and presented it for my inspection; and your sincerity and friendship being in the highest degree real, and the thoughts and sentiments being with the utmost sincerity and truth, and the truth of the letter, and perusing it, my pleasure and delight were exceedingly profound.

All and everything they had settled regarding the regulations of commerce, I, the EMPEROR further examined with utmost scrutiny, and found they are all perspicuous, and entirely and perfectly judicious, and forever worthy of adherence.

To *Kwang Han*, *Man*, *Fuk Chao*, *Ning-Po*, and *Shiao Han*, it is also permitted the citizens of the United States to proceed, and according to the articles of the treaty, at their convenience to carry on commerce.

Now, bound by perpetual amity and concord, advantage will accrue to the citizens of both nations, which, I trust, must certainly cause the PRESIDENT also to be extremely well satisfied and delighted.

Taan Kwang, 24th yr. 11th m. and 7th d. (16th Dec. A. D. 1844.)